

# WISCONSIN FBLA e-BULLETIN

News for Wisconsin FBLA Members



Volume VI, Issue IV

March 2009

## Greetings Wisconsin FBLA!



### Congratulations State Leadership Conference Qualifiers!

It's that time of year! The tears, sweat and blood that went into studying for your **Regional Leadership Conference** was well worth the effort if you qualified for **State!** The next step in the endeavor is going one step further...attending the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California.

As members from across the state of Wisconsin gather in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for the **2009 State Leadership Conference**, the pressure is on to battle for the top spot in the infamous competitive events. The epiphany of Future Business Leaders of America is about to occur after hundreds of hours from dedicated individuals begin to unfold another historic conference. I hope to see a record-breaking number of members and advisers this year as future business leaders take one more step in the direction of success!

As always, if your chapter would like to submit an article for upcoming issues, please contact me, Anthony Pappenfus, Wisconsin State Reporter, at [wifblareporter@gmail.com](mailto:wifblareporter@gmail.com).



### *A Message From Your NCRVP*

Article by Caleb Harris, North Central Region Vice President

Greetings once again, Wisconsin FBLA!

I hope the year is going well for you. As of February 18, 2009, Wisconsin FBLA has increased membership by 736 members since last year! In addition, the North Central Region is up 925 members and FBLA as an entire organization is up 2,798 members and growing. Membership is going strong!

Congratulations to all of the winners from Wisconsin's Regional Leadership Conferences! All of your hard work has paid off, and many of you will now get to travel to the State Leadership Conference to compete against the top FBLA members throughout Wisconsin.

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Unless plans change, I will be attending the Wisconsin State Leadership Conference with you, and I am excited to meet many of you. You all do so much for the organization; I appreciate your contributions.

I look forward to an exciting state conference with healthy competition and a high attendance of FBLA members. Thank you for your dedication to the organization, and I encourage you to continue in your efforts to Get the Edge!

Thank you, Wisconsin FBLA, for being an amazing state chapter. Let's continue to work together to Get the Edge. As always, if you ever need anything or have any questions, please contact me at [fblancvp@fbla.org](mailto:fblancvp@fbla.org).

Caleb Harris

*North Central Region Vice President*

[fblancvp@fbla.org](mailto:fblancvp@fbla.org)



## 2009 State Leadership Conference



Article by Michelle Friedel, State President

Members & Advisers,

I would like to thank everyone who attended the Regional Leadership Conferences. I am happy to announce that Wisconsin's six Regional Leadership Conferences totaled over 4,000 members! Congratulations to all competitors who have moved on to the State Leadership Conference. Remember, when studying for your event, to check both the National and Wisconsin Competitive Event

Guidelines. I wish you the best of luck!

On April 2, thousands of FBLA members will gather from around the state in **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**, in order to test themselves against the best in all competitive subjects. Students will run for state office and strive to earn the best awards on the stage at the Awards Ceremony. There are a few reminders that need to be considered before I see you all in a few weeks!

Presenting yourself as a business leader can take a lot of work. Remember that if you are competing at the State Leadership Conference, there is a strict dress code. Any competitor whose clothing does not abide by the dress code rules may be disqualified from their event. For more information, check out the [full dress code](#) on the Wisconsin FBLA website.

### **FBLA Dress Code**

#### **Males**

- ♦ Business suit with collar dress shirt, and necktie or
- ♦ Sport coat, dress slacks, collar shirt, and necktie or
- ♦ Dress slacks, collar shirt, and necktie.
- ♦ Banded collar shirt may be worn only if sport coat or business suit is worn.
- ♦ Dress shoes and socks.

### **Females**

- ♦ Business suit with blouse or
- ♦ Business pantsuit with blouse or
- ♦ Skirt or dress slacks with blouse or sweater or
- ♦ Business dress.
- ♦ Capri's or gauchos with coordinating jacket/suit, worn below the knee.
- ♦ Dress shoes.

### **Inappropriate attire, for both men and women, includes:**

- ♦ Jewelry in visible body piercing, other than ears
- ♦ Denim fabric or chambray clothing of any kind, overalls, shorts, skorts, stretch or stirrup pants, exercise or bike shorts
- ♦ Backless, see-through, tight-fitting, spaghetti straps, strapless, extremely short, or low-cut blouses/tops/dresses/skirts
- ♦ T-shirts, Lycra, spandex, midriff tops, tank tops, bathing suits
- ♦ Sandals, athletic shoes, industrial work shoes, hiking boots, bare feet, or over-the-knee-boots
- ♦ Athletic wear, including sneakers
- ♦ Hats or flannel fabric clothing
- ♦ Bolo ties
- ♦ Visible foundation garments

## **Tentative Agenda for State Leadership Conference**

### **Thursday, April 2, 2009**

8:00 AM Adviser Meeting  
9:00 AM Registration Opens  
12:00 PM Middle Level Adviser Meeting  
**1:00 PM General Assembly One: Opening Session**  
3:30 PM Tours Depart  
3:30-6:30 PM Project LEAD  
3:30 PM Workshops  
4:30 PM Monopoly Round 1  
4:45 PM Workshops  
6:00 PM Workshops  
4:00-7:30 PM Competitive Events: Written Tests  
6:30-7:00 PM Competitive Events: Performance  
7:00 PM Competitive Events: Finals  
7:30 PM Monopoly Round 2  
9:00-9:30 PM Forum with Officer Candidates for voting Delegates  
9:30-11:30 PM Concert  
11:00 PM Quiet hours enforced in all hotels  
12:00 AM Curfew

### **Friday, April 3, 2009**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Project LEAD  
8:30 AM Workshops & Tours  
9:45 AM Workshops  
11:00 AM Workshops  
8:45 AM Competitive Events: Holding Room for Performance Events  
8:45 AM Competitive Events: Prep Room for Performance Events

9:00 AM Competitive Events: Performance Events  
12:45 AM Wisconsin FBLA Spring Executive Board Meeting  
**1:30 PM General Assembly Two: Officer Election Assembly**  
**5:00 PM General Assembly Three: Awards**  
11:00 PM Quiet hours enforced at all hotels  
12:00 AM Curfew

**Saturday, April 4, 2009**  
11:00 AM Hotel Check-Out

Michelle Friedel  
Wisconsin FBLA State President  
[wifblapresident@gmail.com](mailto:wifblapresident@gmail.com)



### *Don't Hate, Communicate!*

Article by Anthony Pappenfus, Wisconsin State Reporter

If there is one item that I can elaborate upon that I have learned by serving as a state officer, it would most definitely be **communication**. Communication, in any form, is essential within any field you may become involved with as you graduate high school and college. More specifically, communication becomes important when referring to *networking* with individuals.



Networking has become a topic that has rang in my ears ever since I became an FBLA member my freshmen year. Attending conferences, I was constantly encouraged to be outgoing and introduce myself to others, meeting as many other FBLA members as I could. The relationships I have created throughout the years as an FBLA member have proven extremely useful in many instances.

Great examples include the photographs from other chapters of students I have met at conferences. I have also had the resources to obtain ideas about fundraising and community service I may not have had if I did not know members of other FBLA chapters.

I encourage members to step out of their comfort zone and shake a few hands at the upcoming State Leadership Conference. You may meet individuals and create long lasting friendships you never thought possible. If there is one thing I have learned through my term as Wisconsin FBLA State Reporter, it is the importance of communicating. Proving this theory, I've noticed that my business card stack has dwindled down to a pile of only a few.

Meeting people with similar interests is not only beneficial to you as a business leader, but also as a personable individual.



## Obtaining ACTIVE Membership



### Article by Ken Feldkamp, Wisconsin State Treasurer

One of the goals the State Leadership Team has created for the Wisconsin FBLA State Chapter is to not only have increased membership, but to have a highly **involved** increased membership. With competitions coming to a close for some chapters, it can be hard to keep your members involved. Here are some tips, ideas, thoughts and random strategies to keep those members showing up to your meetings.

- ♦ At meetings, keep things fun and entertaining.
- ♦ Have prizes or activities to keep the members involved and wanting to show up.
- ♦ Arrange competitions or games that involve attendance from one meeting to the next to win.
- ♦ Plan exciting and large activities for the end of the year that have requirements, such as attending a certain amount of meetings.

Keep things busy for members. Just because state activities seem to slow down doesn't mean that as a chapter your activities have to slow down as well. Check into the WFeB. State Treasurer, Tony Pappenfus, is still looking for chapter activities to highlight and articles to put in his "Community Service Spotlight" sections. To get your chapter entered into the eBulletin just email him at [wifblareporter@gmail.com](mailto:wifblareporter@gmail.com). The next deadline to be entered into the May WFeB is April 15, so get your articles in!

Involvement is a large problem that some chapters face with their members. Just keep the activities fun throughout the year and your members will continue to attend and participate!



## Legislative & Government Day



### A Day at the State Capitol...

### Article by Larissa Speerstra, Wisconsin State Secretary

On Thursday, February 12, 2009, the State Officers from Wisconsin's Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) traveled to Madison, Wisconsin to take part in an All CTSO Government Day at the State Capitol. Among those 35 officers were representatives from FBLA, FFA, FCCLA, DECA, SkillsUSA and HOSA. The officers heard from a variety of speakers including Debbie Mahaffey, the Assistant State Superintendent of the Division for Academic Excellence at DPI, and Representative Brett Davis of the 80th Assembly District. After getting a full tour of the capitol building, the officers participated in a question and answer panel with Representative Alvin Ott (3rd Assembly District) and Senator John Lehman (21st Senate District). The main topic of the panel was the public agenda, how it is set and how the media influences their work.

In the afternoon, the officers broke off into smaller groups, based on their geographic locations, to speak with the legislators from their respective districts. All of the officers had a chance to talk with the legislators and staff about the impact CTSOs have had on their lives. The officers and legislators had the opportunity to ask questions from one another as well. In the discussions that followed after the meetings, it became evident that the Wisconsin Senators and Representatives care

deeply about education and CTSOs. However, in order to keep our legislators interested, we need to continue to communicate the importance of these great organizations.

Members, I challenge you to research the senators and representatives in your district, and send them an original letter about the impact CTSOs and FBLA have had on your life! By showing your representatives what YOU care about, you can truly make a difference. You can use the information from the sites below to find out what district you are in, and to whom you may send a letter.

[State Legislators](#)  
[State Senate](#)  
[State Representatives](#)

## *March of Dimes Initiatives*



Article by Katey Molinarolo, Wisconsin State Parliamentarian

**The March of Dimes Organization** is one of FBLA's strongest partners. This organization's goal is to ensure that all babies have the opportunity to start life in a healthy manner. This year's State Leadership Conference has exciting, all-new **March of Dimes events!**

On Thursday night, a four-band concert replaces the usual Friday night March of Dimes Blue Jeans for Babies Dance. The concert will be after the Officer Candidate forum. So be ready to rock with the bands. Money raised during this event goes to the March of Dimes.

**A March of Dimes Miracle Minute** replaces the March of Dimes Mini-Walk. Sometime during the Second General Assembly, all 12 of the State Officers will jump up and run through the crowd collecting all the loose change they can in ONE minute. So please be sure to bring lots of loose change to see how fast you can get us to run around!

In summary, a concert replaces the March of Dimes Dance and a Miracle Minute replaces our Mini-Walk. Join us at this year's State Leadership Conference in Milwaukee for a fun way for everyone to Get the EDGE and continue our tradition of raising the most funds for our partner, **March of Dimes!**

## *Regional Updates*

Articles by Regional Vice Presidents

Over 4,000 Wisconsin FBLA members and advisers attended this year's Regional Leadership Conferences. Congratulations to all who have qualified to compete in this year's State Leadership Conference in Milwaukee! Here are a few summaries of *your* region's Leadership Conference.

[Regional Updates](#) »





## "Helping the Animals"



Article by Samantha Murphy, Wisconsin State Vice President

### "Help the Animals!"

As many of you may know, this year's state-wide theme for community service is "Helping the Animals." Many chapters throughout the state have already implemented this theme into their annual community service program by lending a helping hand to their local humane societies, watching neighbors' pets or having a "Pet Drive" at their school to obtain toys, food and other necessities for lost or abused animals.

It is **your** turn to participate in this year's community service theme! There is still time to call your local humane society to volunteer or collect items in a school-wide "Pet Drive."

There will also be an opportunity for members to donate their time at the Milwaukee Humane Society at the State Leadership Conference in order to aide in Wisconsin's mission of "Helping the Animals." Make sure you check into this great opportunity or community service in the heart of Milwaukee at this year's SLC!

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## Contribute to Wisconsin FBLA eBulletin!

Please send us your articles and ideas in order to make the next issue of the Wisconsin FBLA eBulletin even better! If you have any articles to submit please contact the State Reporter, Anthony Pappenfus, at [wifblareporter@gmail.com](mailto:wifblareporter@gmail.com). Don't forget to tell us about your community service projects and be presented in the "Community Service SPOTLIGHT!"



### Quick Links...

- [State Leadership Team](#)
- [Wisconsin FBLA Website](#)
- [North Central FBLA Website](#)
- [Previous eBulletin Issues](#)
- [DPI Nondiscrimination Clause](#)

email: [erik.sitts@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:erik.sitts@dpi.wi.gov)

voice: 608-267-9259

web: <http://dpi.wi.gov/fbla/>